

Pesticide Program Dialogue Committee (PPDC)
EPA Office of Pesticide Programs

Geographic location or area of activity: Nationwide

Description of activity: The Pesticide Program Dialogue Committee (PPDC), authorized under the Federal Advisory Committee Act, provides feedback to the Office of Pesticide Programs (OPP) on various pesticide regulatory, policy and program implementation issues. The PPDC includes environmental and public interest groups, pesticide manufacturers and trade associations, user and commodity groups, public health and academic institutions, Federal and State agencies, and the general public. It has provided advice to OPP on a range of issues, including but not limited to: spray drift, endangered species, reduced risk pesticides, minor uses, ecological standards, outreach to the public, and several implementation issues emanating from the Food Quality Protection Act of 1996 (FQPA).

The PPDC has provided significant advice on the design and implementation of the new pesticide registration review program. The goal of this program is to ensure that, as the ability to assess risk evolves and as policies and practices change, all registered pesticides continue to meet the statutory standard of no unreasonable adverse effects to human health or the environment.

Beginning in 2003, the PPDC has addressed a number of procedural, implementation, programmatic and design issues for the registration review program. This early and constructive involvement had a profound impact on the final design of this key pesticide regulatory program.

OPP continues to use the PPDC to address early registration review implementation issues. At the request of OPP, the PPDC began providing implementation advice in March 2007 on the development of dockets to begin registration review for individual cases. The recommendations covered both improved docket presentation and access. OPP has acted on these recommendations to maximize the usefulness of public comments and prepare for an efficient and effective review process – a critical first step in developing workplans for the registration review of some 70 pesticides a year. OPP expects to continue to work with the PPDC in this manner through all the implementation steps of registration review, seeking their advice at each critical juncture. Because of this constructive and continuing relationship between OPP and its advisory committee, a major new program is being brought on line on time as the old, reregistration program. The transition has been smooth and major stakeholders across the spectrum of interests have endorsed the results.

Another highlight this year was the hard work by the PPDC Spray Drift workgroup, which met multiple times and issued a report detailing recommendations to reduce pesticide spray drift.

Interagency partners: U.S. Food and Drug Administration, U.S. EPA Region 10 and Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance, Department of Interior - Fish & Wildlife Service, Yakama Nation Environmental Management, Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Center for Disease Control and Prevention/National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, Maryland Department of Agriculture

Local partners: American Farm Bureau Federation, Texas A&M University, Exigent Company, Del Monte Foods Corporation, California Minor Crops Council, Florida Fruit & Vegetable Association, Center for American Progress, University of Maryland, Syngenta Crop Protection, American Mosquito Control Association, Center for Environmental Health, Farmworker Justice Fund, Inc., Center for Agricultural Partnerships, Inc., American Bird Conservancy, Responsible Industry for a Sound Environment, Pesticide Action Network - North America, University of Washington, Defenders of Wildlife, Consumer Specialty Products Association, Emerald BioAgriculture Corporation, Migrant Clinicians Network, California Cotton Growers Association, United Farm Workers of America, AFL-CIO, The Accord Group, Washington State University, Medical University of South Carolina, National Pest Management Association, Inc., Natural Resources Defense Council, BBL Sciences, American Chemistry Council, FMC Corporation, Chemical Producers & Distributors Association, Physicians Committee for Responsible Medicine, CropLife America, S.C. Johnson & Son, Inc., IR-4

Activity URL: <http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/ppdc/>